

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

Michael Jenson

The Fire Prevention Section of the Utah State Fire Marshal's Office consists of six fire prevention deputies. The state is divided into five regions. Each deputy is assigned a region of the State and each region boundary is based on a division of the 40 school districts within the state. Two of the deputies live outside the Salt Lake Area and their office is located within their respective region. These are the North Region (Ogden), Steve Higley, and the South West Region (St. George), Todd Hohbein. This provides local access to the Fire Marshal's Office. Of the four remaining deputies, one deputy, Mike Jenson, is the Fire Protection Engineer for the Division. Mark Burton and Kim Passey are the two remaining field inspectors and Brent Halladay is the Chief Deputy to the Fire Marshal.



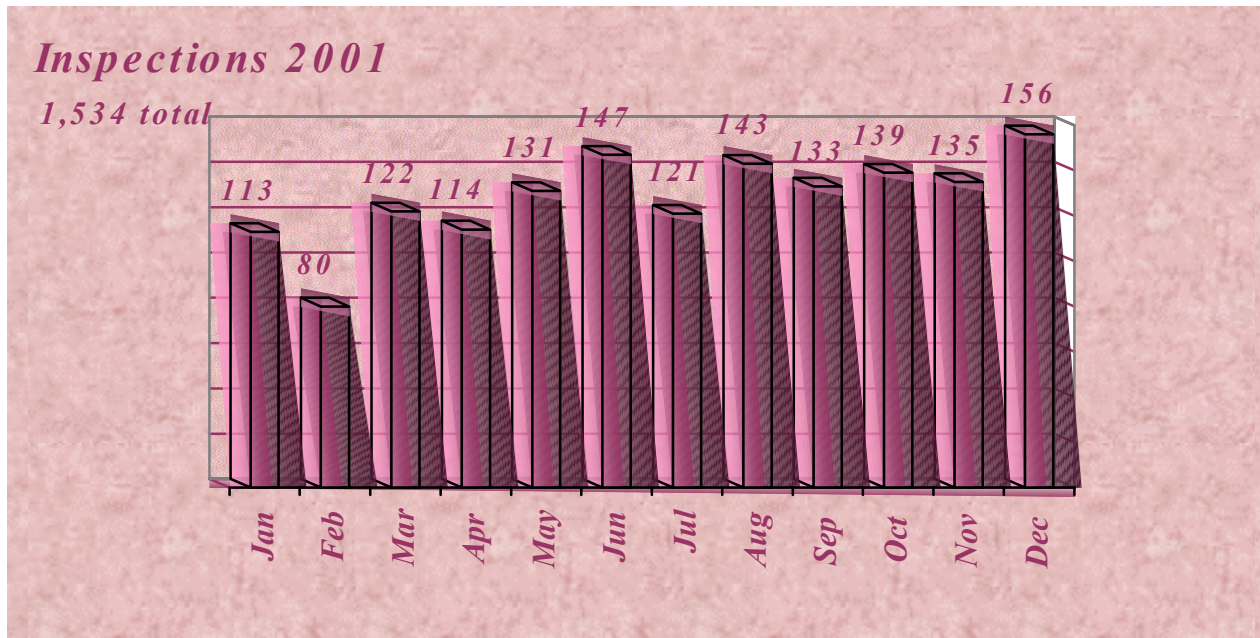
The field inspectors perform building plan reviews and inspections, life and fire safety plan reviews and inspections and handle code compliance issues for all state owned buildings, public and private education facilities, colleges and universities, hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, child care facilities and correctional facilities within their region. Upon completion of a project, the inspector will issue a code compliance certificate indicating compliance with adopted codes.

The Fire Protection Engineer reviews all engineered fire sprinkler system shop drawings and hydraulic calculations to determine compliance with all applicable codes and standards. He also performs physical inspections, in conjunction with the assigned field inspector, to determine if the fire sprinkler installation is installed according to the approved shop drawings. The Fire Protection Engineer also handles automatic sprinkler system code compliance issues and questions.

The Chief Deputy is the supervisor over the Fire Prevention Section and assists the field inspectors with discharging their duties. He may also fill in for the Fire Marshal if needed. The Chief Deputy oversees the State's fireworks licensing and public retail sales of fireworks.

The Fire Prevention Section participates with two very important education related organizations. They are the Utah Facility Operations Managers Association (UFOMA) and Campus Fire Marshals.

The Campus Fire Marshals is similar in scope to UFOMA, but this group consists of secondary education facilities, both private and public and includes trade schools and community colleges. Many of the members of this group serve as the fire marshal for their respective college or university. This group's conferences are hosted twice a year at various campuses throughout the state. At these conferences, subjects are discussed and presented that will enhance the participants abilities to make our higher education campus a safer place.



UFOMA is an organization for primary school facility operators of schools kindergarten through 12. These include private and charter schools. Through this association, operations personnel receive training in fire and safety related issues. This includes code education, school inspection, fire system servicing and maintenance and other fire or safety related topics. This group meets twice a year at various locations throughout the state.



Many of the members of these two organizations have been sworn as special deputies to the State Fire Marshal. This way our office can have a “local” presence on campus. We greatly appreciate the time and dedication given by these individuals to promoting safer facilities for our children’s education.

The Fire Marshal’s Office also works closely with the Utah State Health Department. This relationship provides an avenue for the Fire Marshal to inspect health care facilities through the use of our special deputy program. This also helps minimize duplication of inspections throughout the state. Many of the Health Department’s inspectors are sworn special deputies. These individuals participate in the training along with the Campus Fire Marshal program.

The Mission of the Fire Prevention section is to maintain a reasonable degree of fire and life safety in those buildings that come under our control. As the state continues to grow, so does the area of responsibility to maintain fire safe buildings. Our challenges increase as buildings are remodeled to meet current code standards. As society changes so do the needs to upgrade and remodel existing buildings. The Section is committed to protect and ensure that the public can remain safe from the ravages of fire and have confidence that our public buildings are safe.

